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56TH CONGRESS, 2d Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { DOCUMENT No. 524.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

RICHARD ALSOP WISE

(LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM VIRGINIA).

DELIVERED IN THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE,

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS,
SECOND SESSION.

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The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions.

The resolutions were agreed to; and in pursuance thereof the Speaker appointed the following members of the House:

Mr. Weeks of Michigan, Mr. Aldrich of Alabama, Mr. Kahn of California, Mr. Roberts of Massachusetts, Mr. Minor of Wisconsin, Mr. Brick of Indiana, Mr. Jones of Virginia, Mr. Swanson of Virginia, Mr. Otey of Virginia, Mr. Rixey of Virginia, Mr. Hay of Virginia, Mr. Lamb of Virginia, Mr. Quarles of Virginia, Mr. Rhea of Virginia, Mr. Lassiter of Virginia, Mr. Lloyd of Missouri, and Mr. Gaines of Tennessee.

Mr. JONES, of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly, the House (at 12 o'clock and 21 minutes), in accordance with its previous order, adjourned until Thursday, January 3, 1901, at 12 o'clock noon.

JANUARY 10, 1901.

Mr. JONES, of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, some time since I gave notice that I would ask the House to fix a day when those who desired to do so might present eulogies on my late colleague, RICHARD A. WISE, of Virginia. I now ask unanimous consent that Saturday, February 9, at 4 o'clock, shall be set aside for that purpose.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Virginia asks unanimous consent that Saturday, February 9, at 4 o'clock p. m., be set apart for eulogies upon the life and character of the late Representative RICHARD A. WISE. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none, and that order is made.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES.

FEBRUARY 9, 1901.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The hour of 4 o'clock having arrived, the House will proceed to the special order for this hour.

Mr. LAMB. I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. RICHARD A. WISE, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Virginia.

Resolved, That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, the House, at the conclusion of this day's proceedings, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Address of Mr. Lamb, of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker: The great mortality in the Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth Congresses reminds us that life is but a span; that man "cometh forth like a flower and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not." "In the morning they are like grass which groweth up. In the morning it flourisheth and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down and withereth."

During these Congresses the Commonwealth of Virginia has lost two of her ten Representatives. A few months ago we bore to his last resting place our promising young colleague from the Fourth district. To-day we pay tribute to the memory of another who has passed, unexpectedly to most of us, though not to himself, from the scenes of earth to "the undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns."

On Tuesday, the 18th day of December last, I paired with my colleague in this House, and he spoke to me perhaps the last words he ever uttered here. After telling me that he was suffering, I remarked, "You are a doctor and ought to know what will give relief." He replied, "The doctors can not cure a man with my disease." That night he left for his home. Within four days he was sleeping in the cemetery at Hollywood, near the city of Richmond, where rest the bodies of thousands who have helped to make the name and fame of the Old Dominion.

Richard Alsop Wise was the eldest son by his second marriage of Gen. Henry A. Wise, of Virginia, who was for ten years a member of this House, then minister to Brazil,

and afterwards governor of Virginia, and later on a distinguished general in the war between the States. He inherited a vigorous intellect and strong personality. At the breaking out of the war he left college to join the Confederate army.

He was a private in Stuart's cavalry, and at the close of the war was assistant inspector-general of Wise's brigade. After the war he graduated in medicine from the Medical College of Virginia. In 1869 he was professor of chemistry in the College of William and Mary; was appointed assistant physician to the Eastern Lunatic Asylum of Virginia in 1878, and in 1882 was elected superintendent of this asylum and served until the spring of 1884. He served in the Virginia legislature three years, and was elected clerk of the county courts of the city of Williamsburg and the county of James City in 1887, holding this office for six years, administering the same with marked ability and success. He was for a number of years chairman of the Republican county committee of James City County, and was a member of the Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth Congresses. The large number of bills he introduced for his district and the appropriations he secured will attest his industry and his close attention to his duties. Could he have survived this session he would have realized the success of several schemes he hoped to see perfected.

That he was a man of unusual energy and force of character is fully shown by the recital above of the various positions he filled with great credit to himself, and satisfaction, as I have been able to observe, to those interested.

During a portion of the time that he served as assistant superintendent of the Eastern Lunatic Asylum I was one of the directors of that institution, and can testify to his ability and efficiency as well as his great kindness and unceasing attention to the wants of the unfortunate people committed

to his charge. Too often in private life, owing to conflict of interest or preconceived opinions or unfortunate and unfounded prejudices, we do injustice to our fellows and are slow to give them full measure of praise. Much more is this the case when party differences separate us and we look on one side only.

That I may bring out the salient points in the life and character of our deceased colleague and show in what estimate he was held by those who knew him best, and at the same time differed with him in politics, I will read from the pen of a citizen of Williamsburg a tribute that was paid him a few days after his untimely taking off:

IN MEMORIAM—RICHARD A. WISE.

The feeling of the deepest sorrow fills this entire community on account of the death of Dr. RICHARD A. WISE, which occurred about 10 o'clock yesterday morning, for they feel the loss of a good and skillful physician, who was ready at all times to respond to the calls of suffering humanity; and those who feel most heavily the loss of a kind friend and benefactor are the poorer class of people. This day have been heard on the streets and out in the country many heartfelt expressions of sorrow from the lips of white and colored: "What is to become of us, now that Dr. WISE is gone?" Many families can be mentioned white families, not to speak of the colored people upon whom Dr. WISE has been practicing for years without hope or expectation of remuneration. The devotion of the needy class to Dr. WISE was phenomenal. Day and night, it is known to the writer of this poor tribute, Dr. WISE would travel many miles to visit the sick, nurse them tenderly and carefully, when he well knew there was not the slightest prospect of any medical fees.

The author of this notice differed in politics from Mr. WISE—one a lifelong Democrat, the other a Republican—yet we know that there are white Democrats in this part of the peninsula who never failed to vote for Dr. WISE whenever he was a candidate for office. But these men would never vote for any other Republican. Their gratitude to the good physician and their generous friend always overcame their party loyalty.

Dr. WISE has proven a working and useful member of Congress, and it can not be denied that he has secured at Washington large appropriations for this Congressional district.

Though regarded generally as a bitter partisan by the Democrats, it is well known that he has secured during his career in Congress many

appointments for Democrats. One of his last public acts was to appoint as principal and alternate to the Naval Academy, at Annapolis, the sons of unwavering Democrats.

Dr. WISE had his peculiarities (and who has them not?), but he possessed a kind heart and generous disposition to those who knew him intimately and understood him well.

A lifelong Democrat, who has never voted any other than a Democratic ticket (save once, and that for Horace Greeley), who has known Dr. WISE for more than forty years—always differing with him politically—feels deeply distressed at his untimely death, and will place flowers upon his grave, with "Peace to his ashes."

DEMOCRAT.

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., *December 22, 1900.*

I have no idea who is the author of this tribute to my colleague, Mr. Speaker, but I know the people of the good old town of Williamsburg, Va. I knew them when a boy, before the war swept over them with the besom of destruction. I saw her young men die in defense of the constitutional rights their own sires had won on the historic plains of Yorktown. I knew a few of that heroic band who returned to their poverty-stricken homes to begin life anew, having lost all save honor and ambition. Some of these walked as far as Richmond, carrying their worldly goods. One, I remember, who was at one time a private in my company, migrated to Texas and became governor of that State, and afterwards a member of the United States Senate.

Most of these heroes, however, remained in and near the ancient town. Without doubt one of these penned the tribute to Dr. WISE that I have just read. It bears the marks of sincerity and evidently shows that the author has learned one lesson—a hard lesson for weak mortality—to conquer his prejudices. If we have not learned this lesson in the school of life or the school of politics, we may, perchance, catch a glimpse of its importance as we "Walk through the valley of the shadow of death."

It was in this town, once the capital of Virginia, and the scene of her Revolutionary struggle, as it had been an hundred years before of Bacon's rebellion, that Dr. WISE settled a year or two after the war.

I remember passing through Williamsburg, on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, last fall. Dr. WISE boarded the train. A drizzling rain was falling, and just before reaching a station in the old county of New Kent he informed me that he would get off there. As that county is in my district, I inquired what was carrying him up there such an inclement day. He then told me that he had an urgent letter from an old lady, who had written him to come to see her, as she had been a patient of his years before. I knew that he would have to ride 10 miles in an open buggy after leaving the train, and that he would not charge a fee for the visit. On the ride we passed through a country well known to us both. He remarked on the improved condition of the country in some places, and expressed gratification that the negroes were building better houses and appeared more thrifty. Indeed, he felt confident that they were progressing, whatever might be said to the contrary. I reminded him that these negroes were chiefly the old servants who had remained at home, that the younger men and women were drifting off into other States, that servants and cooks could scarcely be hired at all, and that in a score or two of years an entirely new population would settle the historic peninsula; that the country between Newport News and Richmond must become a fruit-growing and truck-raising section, finding larger markets than now in the great West, as well as supplying the growing towns of Virginia. "Yes," he said, "but you and I will be dead before then."

In the death of our colleague another of that incomparable

body of men—the glorious infantry of the Army of Northern Virginia—has answered the long roll call and gone to join the great majority. We are falling more rapidly than we fell in battle. Soon the places that know us now will know us no more forever. The Confederate soldier, like the heroes of Marathon and Thermopylæ, will live only in song and story. Those by whose splendid deeds in war they may well measure their chivalry and manhood are falling at the rate of 1,000 a month, and before another decade has been numbered with the silent past the ex-soldiers of the Grand Army of the Republic and those who followed the Stars and Bars will meet beyond the river.

And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying; neither shall there be any more pain.

Address of Mr. Weeks, of Michigan.

Mr. Speaker: In the few remarks which I shall address to the House on this occasion it will be my purpose to present my sincere and impartial impressions of the character of Richard A. Wise—impressions obtained during an acquaintance limited in time, but rendered intimate by relations similar to those which arise between a lawyer and his client. Every lawyer on this floor will recall the fact that it is quite common for a life-long friendship to exist between the professional man and the client for whom he has given his earnest and sympathetic services in some close litigation or hard-fought legal battle—a friendship that merges into comradeship or something akin to fraternal affection.

My first acquaintance with the deceased began in the year 1899, when he was contestant for the seat which he occupied when he died. From my relation to that contest I necessarily learned much of his political record and personal character, and out of that knowledge grew a warm friendship and sincere admiration.

He was in no way a showy man. Neither in personal appearance nor in polished manner and speech did he create favorable first impressions which were not sustained by more intimate acquaintance. Seriousness, bluntness of speech, and pertinacity were the traits of his character most apparent to strangers.

He had a contempt for flattery, which made him slow in his approaches to intimacy. I never met a man whose speech or manner was more free from hypocritical profession or who took less pains to conceal his own contempt for hypocrisy in others.

Yet when the outer barriers of acquaintance were passed he presented to his friends an inner self strangely in contrast with the first impressions which he seemed anxious to make upon strangers.

Beneath a rugged exterior he had a heart of gold, filled with the unselfish desire to serve the people that he loved, and an overanxious wish to show appreciation of kindness shown to him.

Under an apparent sluggishness of thought and action he had a keen, active mind, which observed with unusual political sagacity, which planned with careful forethought, and which executed vigorously and with regard to every detail.

It is no reflection upon others to say that the contests made in this House by the deceased showed all these qualities in a preeminent degree and were won by an amount of preparation and labor which would have discouraged many men of less pertinacity and continuity of purpose. None knew this quality of the deceased better than his political opponents, who with one voice admit that he never lost a political advantage by failure to fight for it.

He had emphatically the courage of his convictions to a preeminent degree, and although the disease which finally killed him was brought about by the labor and anxiety of his political struggles, he expressed no regret at the sacrifice, but epitomized his nature in his last utterances. He was a physician and knew the symptoms of his malady perfectly. When told that he needed rest, he replied that he had work to do and would rather die fighting than live resting. He knew his death was approaching, and speaking of it to me an hour before he left the House of Representatives for the last time he said: "I am going to die, but I have no fear of death." To another friend he said, with a look of pride

and defiance: "They have killed me, but they could not whip me. I die on top." And with the pride and conscious dignity of a Roman senator he turned away from the presence of the House, then in session, and walked out of political life to go to his loved and quiet home to die.

I must speak of the politics of the deceased, for the interest of the public in his life springs from the lessons taught by his political career. I must speak of his personal antecedents, for in them will be found the peculiarities and the strength of his nature.

He was the son of a remarkable man, who for many years upon the floor of this House was a peerless and eloquent type and exponent of Southern views, afterwards governor of Virginia when John Brown was tried and executed, and afterwards still a distinguished leader on the Southern side. Upon his mother's side he was the grandson of an eminent lawyer, a prominent statesman, and a typical Puritan of the North.

In him, therefore, were combined two distinct strains, which need not be described, but in one of which impetuous zeal and fiery eloquence were prominent, and in the other patient work, strong conviction, common sense, and boundless tenacity. In both were ambition, controlled by honesty of purpose.

No wonder, then, if our deceased friend in the course of his long career gave evidence of his possession of these remarkable qualities.

In the bud of his youth he confronted a civil conflict in which manhood could not well be negative. His teachings in his childhood that his first allegiance was due to his State, and that she, in her course, was resisting aggression; and a deep filial love, which is a family characteristic, made him volunteer as a Confederate soldier in April of 1861 and serve

with honor and with courage until the downfall of the Confederacy. In the sense that he never admitted that he was a traitor, and made no apologies for his Confederate career, and venerated his commanders, and loved his old Confederate comrades, he was a Confederate soldier until he died. But notwithstanding this, from the time the Confederate war was ended and the Confederate cause dead beyond resurrection, he accepted the inevitable, and his orphaned allegiance to that cause was transferred cheerfully, in good faith, and thenceforth unfalteringly to the reunited United States of America.

RICHARD A. WISE possessed the quality of common sense, derived from father and mother alike, which showed him the absurdity of his citizenship in and protection by a government to which he professed an allegiance, which he could not possibly renounce, yet against which he cherished a secret grudge and animosity for old issues which had been fairly and bravely fought to a final decision. To him it seemed that the hope of the South, her future happiness, her future greatness, depended upon the division of her people into political parties upon living issues of the present and the future, ignoring the dead sectional and race questions, which had been settled by the civil war. To him it seemed that, notwithstanding the antagonism of the Republican party to the South in the time of war, it was a more rational and a more progressive and safer party, in the present, than the Democracy. He was strong enough to overcome his old prejudices against Republicanism, and strong enough to discern and ridicule the cunning and constant appeals of reorganized Democracy to his Confederate feeling, upon some notion, vaguely suggested, that it, any more than Republicanism, represents any obsolete Confederate idea. He scorned hypocrisy in politics, and embraced Republicanism through intelligence, and not through sentiment.

Through my acquaintance with RICHARD A. WISE I have, as a Northern Republican, come to appreciate the strength of character and independence requisite to make a Southern Confederate gentleman, still residing among his people, an open, militant advocate of Republican policies. The position of such a man is different and infinitely more difficult than that of the white loyalist who left the South during the war and returned at its close; or the Northern white who moved to the South after the cessation of hostilities; or the black who, owing all to the Republican party, is naturally Republican. Such a man, when he takes ground with the Republican party, knows that he does it at the sacrifice of many former friends; knows that the local allies with whose aid he must thenceforth wage his political strife are disposed to distrust him for his antecedents or be jealous of his future prominence; and he knows, moreover, or must learn, that even in the North, among his party associates, the sincerity of his position will be gravely scanned and the value of his political influence doubted, for the North listens much to the aspersions upon such men by their political opponents.

Notwithstanding all this, there have been many instances of brave, defiant, forceful men who have dared to range themselves in favor of the Republicanism of to-day upon the very soil on which they fought it in the time of civil strife. No instance of this has been more conspicuous than that of RICHARD A. WISE, who for the past twenty years has stood as chairman and leader of the Republican party in his home in Virginia, and who, starting almost alone among the whites of his community, has built up around himself a Republican party composed of many of the best citizens of the ancient capital of Virginia, and has drawn to his personal support, even on the Republican ticket, many citizens who refused to admit that they were Republicans.

It was my privilege to visit this man at his home, to meet and become acquainted with his friends, and see and know how he bore himself among his fellow-citizens. It was a curious study to a Northern man, coming from a section where race and social distinctions and political prejudices are so different from what they are in the South. I saw him moving about among his people, white and black, a man, a neighbor, a citizen, a physician, and a politician, each of these relations operating in a different way to influence his political power.

His high social standing, his irreproachable domestic and private life made him all the more obnoxious to those who through deep prejudice regarded his politics as treason. His conduct as an exemplary citizen commanded respect for his opinions and strengthened his power to work reformation. His unquestioned courage as a man made his most bitter enemies careful how they attacked him personally. His skill as a physician and his readiness to bestow the charity of his healing on friend and foe alike took the bitterness out of animosity. He was a man of the people, to whom the poor and humble flocked, and in whom they trusted—white and black. Yet he was unconsciously an aristocrat in his relation to the great bulk of his political constituents, and they, unconsciously and lovingly, acknowledged his aristocracy in their bearing toward him.

As a politician he had no peer in the opposition, in learning, in the forceful presentation of the issues, or in the industry and zeal with which he pressed his views. Handling the means and influences at his command with great adroitness, he gathered about him and held together around him, in the face of opposition even in his own party, a strong, respectable, and aggressive Republican party in his Congressional district, and reclaimed it in two contests after it had been long under Democratic control. He held it as the last stronghold of

Republicanism in Virginia in the face of an outrageous election law and a divided support in his party.

On the floor of this House he made no effort to be conspicuous or gain notoriety. He modestly accepted his position as a new member, but was ever at his post in support of his party with the fidelity of a veteran.

In his fight for his seat in this House, with which I was familiar, he was aggressive to the point of fierceness. In his feelings against political adversaries who, as he believed, had wronged him, he was scathing, denunciatory, and bitter; but in the discharge of his duties as a public representative, in the bestowal of the little patronage that was accorded to him, he did his full duty to friend and foe alike, and was ever generous in the work done and the consideration shown to his political adversaries and in his effort to benefit all his people. The work he accomplished while he was in office will remain a monument to his untiring zeal.

When he died, the men whom he had fought so long and so courageously were either silently respectful or accorded to him the courage, constancy, honesty, sincerity, and zeal which all knew he possessed.

I have forborne from reference to his domestic life, save as it bore upon his political career. The little glimpse I had of his sweet domestic circle, in his unpretentious home at Williamsburg, of his keen love for and intimate knowledge of agriculture, of his joy in his flowers and his crops, the friendships by which he was surrounded, the almost worshipful faith of his black constituents, the peaceful fireside under the shadow of the old colonial church, all are too sacred to be made the subject of description; but they went into the sum of the life which is ended, and were as much a part, a beneficial part, of his career as the fiercer elements of public conflict.

As the years are counted he was young, but his lot fell at a time when the events crowded into the fifty-seven years which he lived made him an old man in experience. He was a veteran soldier of the civil war, a professor for many years in the second oldest college in our country, a successful practicing physician, a member of the general assembly of his State, and a Congressman at the time of our nation's war with Spain.

He has closed a life of remarkable activity, in which he displayed intellect, courage, honesty, frugality, and untiring industry and zeal for the things which he believed were right, which entitle his name and his example to live as a model for the youth who come after him, a blessing, a comfort to those who loved him.

RICHARD ALSOP WISE represented in this House of Congress the Second district of Virginia, made up of the counties of Charles City, Elizabeth City, Isle of Wight, James City, Nansemond, Norfolk, Princess Anne, Southampton, Surry, Warwick, and York, and the cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Williamsburg, and Newport News. This includes the peninsula lying between the York and the James rivers, a territory rich in historical reminiscence as the theater of some of the greatest events in the history of the Republic.

Williamsburg, one of the ancient capitals of Virginia, rich in memories of colonial days and of the Revolutionary times, with a church built in the days of William and Mary, and around which may be found mural monuments commemorating the names of men and women who lived and died more than a century before this nation was born; where may be found the foundation stones of the building once occupied as the capitol of the colony of Virginia, where stood her house of burgesses, when George Washington and Patrick Henry were representatives, or delegates, and where the dignity of Washington and

the patriotic and fervid oratory of Henry were seen and heard in the early days of American revolt against oppression and tyranny. Within seven miles is Jamestown, the site of the first permanent settlement of Englishmen in America, and not far away historic Yorktown, the field where England's proud banner was lowered, her arms laid down, and her army surrendered to Lafayette and Washington.

And again in the civil war was this ground hallowed by the blood and sacrifice of those who struggled for the preservation of the Union, as well as those who fought, as they believed, for the honor of the South. And among these last mentioned, one was RICHARD A. WISE, who was a soldier in the army of the Confederacy. Over this peninsula marched and battled the armies of the contending forces, and made forever memorable the fields of Yorktown, Williamsburg, and Fair Oaks.

A year ago I visited the battlefield of Williamsburg with RICHARD A. WISE as my guide, and talked over with him the scenes and incidents of that hard-fought field, and I was deeply impressed with the rare powers of description and the fairness and intelligence of my guide, as he described the incidents of that struggle, standing on the very ground where the drama was enacted.

Not only here, but on many other occasions did Mr. WISE repeat to me the stories of his campaigns while a "rebel" soldier, and gave me the reasons which prompted him, the feelings which animated him, the sympathies and emotions which stirred his heroic young soul in those days of war and disaster for his native State. And then, when the sad and terrible conflict was over, he told me of the regeneration of his patriotism and the renewal of his loyalty to the flag of our great Republic.

In all these conversations he never spoke of his native State except in terms of love, or of his comrades save in language of

tender remembrance. Surrounded by such memories and such scenes, Mr. WISE passed many years of active political effort, but they were years also of peaceful and lovely domestic life.

I close with reverence the perfumed leaves of his book of life and lay this poor tribute upon his bier, counting my brief acquaintance with this man among the choicest of my manhood experiences. It has taught me a lesson of forbearance and forgiveness toward those whom we have, some of us, long looked upon with almost irreconcilable partisan distrust, and led me to a more generous hope that in the fullness of time there will be real and lasting reconciliation between those who once contended in civil war, but who now, like RICHARD A. WISE in his lifetime, have laid away forever the bitterness and prejudice which the passing of the generation fully warrants.

Address of Mr. Linney, of North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker: It has been said that man is man's best book, the last page whereof is written in death.

It is probably a recognition of this fact that makes the proceedings of this House, by which we attempt to pay our tribute of respect to the memory of those who served with us and have "passed over the river," so desirable to our constituents. I do not know how it is with others, but I am often in receipt of letters from my constituents—from the most thoughtful, too, of them—asking me to furnish them the Record of the proceedings on a certain memorial occasion.

There they learn, Mr. Speaker, much in this greatest book. They learn of life, and they learn much of the sad hour of death.

In all ages it has been the case, and in times to come it will probably still be the case, that the matters of life and the still more solemn mysteries of death will always be a subject of inquiry to thoughtful people in all countries. The diversity of opinion touching this overshadowing question is greater than the diversity of opinion upon any other subject, on any other line of human thought, or in anything that challenges the attention and commands the efforts of men here upon the earth. Even, sir, in the fiercest conflicts—in the fierce conflict of opinion upon the rostrum; in the conflict of opinion here upon this floor and elsewhere; in the bitter conflicts which are fought upon matters not pertaining to the mysteries of life and death—the attention of mankind in every country is called to the fact that in the book of inspiration, luminous, life giving, and radiating as it is, the God of the universe was unable to make

Himself thoroughly understood upon these wonderful mysteries which involve life and which terminate in death. Hence we see the different schools of theology and the different Christian organizations throughout the world.

It has been said by someone that life is a narrow pathway, a vale that lies between the tall and barren peaks of two eternities.

It was said by the great Cæsar that death is no punishment. Even in the trial of Catiline, Cæsar in the Roman senate moved the abolition of the death penalty. "Ah," says one, "there is a senator in sympathy with Catiline." "Not so," said the great Cæsar, "I move the abolition of the death penalty because death is no punishment. To die only lops off so many years of fearing death."

"We are after death as we were before birth." The greatest theologian I think I ever heard, Bishop Atkins, in speaking of life and the idea of immortality and the thoughts connected with it, opened the window in a lighted room and presented a photograph of a bird in its flight through an outer window, its fluttering rapidly to a point of escape. The only difference between the theologian and Cæsar was that Cæsar saw nothing beyond dissolution. Death terminated all with him. That was the finality. But the great bishop "saw an unending life of bliss and hope and happiness in the future." The most impressive definition of the terms "life and death" that I have seen recently is this: "Life is a complete circle, a continual sunrise, in which we behold the splendors of each new day; but finally there comes a time when man passes to the circumference of the earth's circle, when a shadow covers him, and he marches forth into the splendor of an eternal morning."

The immortal ancestor of Dr. Wise, of whose virtues we speak to-day, believed in this last definition I have given. He

believed in the immortality of the soul, and expressed the hope of a realization of the eternal day of sunshine and joy, and upon his deathbed said to his sons: "My sons, in view of the great problems of life, let me say to you that success can only be attained by looking for the hardest knots in life and untying them if you can, always bearing in mind that the standard by which your conduct is to be controlled is measured by this interrogatory, 'Is it right?'"

Mr. Speaker, the late George Nathaniel Folk, of the North Carolina bar, was, in my opinion, one of the ablest lawyers of America. On one occasion his son George was talking to his father as to what he should select as the business of his life. "My son," said the great jurist, "look at my library. It is almost all I have. I want you to read law and follow it as a profession." "Not so," said George. "I can never hope to attain success in the profession until I shall have reached your professional excellence, and I can never hope to do that. Therefore I must select some other profession."

Truly, Mr. Speaker, greatness is as a mighty mountain, with a depression of progenitor on one side and of progeny on the other. Why? Because self-reliance, and self-reliance only, develops and strengthens human character. That is the rule. An idea struck me while the distinguished gentleman from Virginia [Mr. Lamb] was talking about the Confederate soldier. I want to add something to that. In the county in which I live I have never known a Confederate soldier to be indicted for a crime. Why? Notwithstanding the demoralizing influences of army life, the discipline of the army develops men. Look at your Senators from the South, your governors, your judges, your successful business men, those who stand out above all others, and as a rule in spite of great disadvantages, such as lack of education, etc., you find that the men

who are great and successful bear the wounds of strife—the cut of the sword or bayonet or the mark of the bullet.

The ancestor of Dr. WISE was, in my opinion, in many respects the greatest citizen of the State of Virginia; and when I say that it is indeed a high standard. A photograph has been taken from the gallery of that distinguished fellow-citizen as he sat upon this floor at the age of 39. At the age of 39 Henry A. Wise, the ancestor of Dr. WISE, was regarded as one of the leading political orators of the country. In an article entitled "Glances at Congress" this photograph of his physical and intellectual existence is preserved:

> His face is pale, and his white cravat adds to his appearance of livid pallor, but he has a dark and brilliant eye, a powerful feature in Mr. Wise, which seems sometimes to flash almost unearthly rays of light over his whole countenance.
>
> All his prominent characteristics are brought out with great rapidity. Firmness, impetuosity, a disdain for honeyed words, fierce sarcasm, and invective, all gather into a hurricane and startle the drowsy members from the lounges and wake up those victims of dull hours, the reporters.

Mr. Speaker, Henry A. Wise, the ancestor of Dr. WISE, probably made the most of his reputation in the great campaign against Know-nothingism when he was running for governor.

> I have met the Black Knight with his visor down, and his lance and spear are broken.

The use of this classic, to which he has given the force of a proverb, made the name of Henry A. Wise immortal. The oratory displayed by him in that campaign and the adroitness with which he managed the debate, as well as the courage he displayed in it, have probably never been equaled.

Great orations are generally short. Wise spoke for five hours, consuming all the time of a day and night session, upon the problem that property can never represent a vote in the

State of Virginia. "I hold that the true element of representation in the legislature is the will of the people. Anything that belongs to man has no will and no right to vote." And during that period of five hours the flashes of the immortal soul of the great orator which swept across his face, as described in that photograph taken from the gallery, held upon his words an audience the largest that ever up to that time had assembled in the State of Virginia, and the interest at the last hour of the five was greater than at the first.

He was indeed a very great man. How came the Wises to be so great? It is hard to tell. His son, Dr. Wise, as well as all of the line from 1636, the time of John Wise, the common ancestor of the family, all were great. It has been said by some theologians that with the first breath a man inhales he takes in some preexisting spirit, which he transmits in death. Possibly, when the great original progenitor of the line drew his first breath, in the time of Henry VIII (Sir William Wise being knighted by Henry VIII because of his wit), he inhaled a spirit under some great Gibraltar of moral and intellectual excellence which has been transmitted from father to son. There was no depression of progenitor on the one side or of progeny on the other in the overtowering mountain fame of Henry A. Wise. All were great.

Dr. Wise was a student of William and Mary College. The usual course there between entrance and graduation was five years. After having attended there two years Dr. Wise went to the war, entering the Confederate army as a private, but coming out as an officer of distinction. William and Mary was the first seat of learning ever established in the United States except one, and that was Harvard. It had an endowment of £1,500,000 and 15,000 acres of land.

We know that a "professorship of law and police, one of

anatomy, medicine, and chemistry, and one of modern languages were created."

Besides the preparatory department, known as the grammar and "Matty" school, founded by Mrs. Mary Whaley in 1742, the college has the following departments: 1, Latin; 2, Greek; 3, mathematics; 4, French; 5, German; 6, natural philosophy and mixed mathematics; 7, chemistry, geology, mineralogy, and physiology; 8, moral and intellectual science and belles-lettres. * * * The institution was formerly under Episcopal control, but is now connected with no denomination. Benjamin S. Ewell, LL. D., was president of the college since 1854 for many years. Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, John Tyler, Chief Justice Marshall, Peyton Randolph, president of the first American Congress; John Randolph of Roanoke, and Winfield Scott were graduates of this college.

Dr. WISE, whose memory we are now commemorating, was a student of this college for two years, and such was the progress that he made, such the natural vigor of his intellect, that he was prepared to occupy an exalted position in his alma mater. He was appointed professor of chemistry and physiology in the college of William and Mary, and occupied that position for some time with entire satisfaction, we are told, to everybody.

Mr. Speaker, the most learned of all the professions is the medical profession. Dr. WISE succeeded in the practice of his profession; he not only succeeded in the practice of his profession, but such was his success, such his acknowledged learning in the most learned of all professions, that he was chosen by the authorities of the State of Virginia as physician for the insane asylum, which he held for a long period. That such a man should succeed in everything that he undertook, of course, is what is to be expected.

He finally entered into politics; and there is something remarkable about that—the charm of political life for men. He held an exalted position in this great college in which Washington was once an officer, and Jefferson and Monroe and

all the great treasured intellectualities of the great State of Virginia received their training. I say the fact that Dr. WISE should have attained to such eminence in that college was an honor far beyond anything that he ever could have obtained in political life. Still there is something of an exceptional charm about political life. The most intelligent men desire to occupy a position in political life as a matter of honor. Dr. WISE was not an exception to the rule. He entered the political arena and was able to measure with the foremost, with the greatest in the State of Virginia, where he entered into the field of politics.

I say it was with him the fiercest flame with which human intellect and human effort ever came in conflict. No doubt he hesitated an entrance upon this field; but once being in, he proved himself a master. He was with us a short time. I became somewhat intimately acquainted with him, and enjoyed his society because of his great big soul. His eyes, the windows of his immortal soul, told what he was. There is no depression upon either side of the mountain of human excellence built up by the greatness of Henry A. Wise in the progeny in this case. Under existing conditions, with the same environments, Dr. WISE would have measured well up with the greatest Virginian that lived since the birth of Henry A. Wise. He had severe conflicts in his life. It was because of that very fact that he gave utterance to the somewhat melancholy remark here to myself and the gentleman from Alabama in this gloomy line of thought. Said he, "I shall not live long. I know enough about the diseases that make war on human vitality to know that this life with me is about ended. I do not care to fight the battle much longer. The struggle with me has been of such a character that I am almost weary of life."

Mr. Speaker, a truer, braver heart I never saw. I wish we had everything in his life, from the cradle to the grave, put upon record. It would constitute a book out of which the greatest Virginian, the greatest North Carolinian, the greatest American could draw lessons of wisdom and exalted patriotism that would enlarge his soul, make his life better, and probably increase his prospects for the joy of the eternal beyond.

Address of Mr. Rixey, of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker: I first met my late colleague upon the assembling of the Fifty-fifth Congress. We were not thrown much together in the years that followed, and, while I was a member of the committee which attended his funeral in Richmond, it had not been my purpose, owing to my limited acquaintance with him, to offer any remarks to-day, preferring to leave that sad duty to those of my colleagues who were favored with a more intimate acquaintance. At a late hour, however, one of my colleagues has found himself unable, by reason of absence, to participate in these ceremonies.

I am fully conscious of my inability, under these circumstances, to speak of the life, character, and distinguished services of my late colleague as they deserve.

A Virginian by birth, he came of distinguished ancestry. His father, Henry A. Wise, was, as has been said, one of the most noted men the Old Dominion ever produced. For ten years a member of this House, he was nominated by President Tyler for the post of minister to France and resigned his seat in Congress in anticipation of a confirmation by the Senate. The Senate failed to confirm, and he was at once returned by his loyal constituents to the Congress from which he had resigned. Again nominated by President Tyler, this time as minister to Brazil, he was confirmed by the Senate. Resigning this position, after several years of service, he returned to his State, and taking an active part in politics was, in 1855, after an exciting contest in which the Know-Nothing party in Virginia received its death blow, elected governor of his State. It was in the closing days of his administration that the John Brown raid, the precursor of the great war between the States, occurred.

Brave and chivalrous, warm in his friendships, uncompromising in his hatreds, his son, RICHARD ALSOP WISE, inherited these with many other traits of his noble father.

The political career of my late colleague was tempest tossed. Honored by his State, he filled many positions of high honor and trust; not always without criticism, for he had enemies, but always as an honorable man.

While not an orator, he was a leader. He could not and did not brook a divided leadership in his own political party. Hence it was that his bitterest antagonists were often to be found among those of his own party faith; but he never quailed or cowered before opposition within or without. He was easily the leader of his faction. No other name was suggested. War to the knife, and woe to the vanquished! No quarter asked and none given. Cant, hypocrisy, deceit, and treachery had his most unmitigated contempt and enmity.

Twice a member of this House, bitterly assailed within his own party, seated in each case after prolonged contests, in which all of the old political sores of his district were reopened; unassigned, by reason of these contests, to any important committee, he had little opportunity to make an impression upon the House. Those, however, who knew him here, slightly though it was, recognized in him the undying love and devotion to his friends, his country, and, above all, his native State. Peace to his ashes! buried, according to his desire, at the capital city of his State, in beautiful Hollywood, by the side of his honored father.

It is stated that when our late colleague left this Hall for the last time, he said to a friend, "I am going home to die;" and when asked if such feelings did not depress him, replied, "No; I am not afraid to die." Mr. Speaker, none but the brave can answer thus. Such is the spirit of those who can lay down their lives for their country or their faith.

Address of Mr. Aldrich, of Alabama.

Mr. Speaker: We are gathered here to-day in the Chamber of the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the memory of Richard Alsop Wise, a member of this Congress from the Second Virginia district until his death, which occurred at his home in Williamsburg, Va., on December 21, 1900, just prior to the dawn of this new century.

Mr. Wise was a Virginian of the Virginians. If you read the history of Virginia, you find that the history of Mr. Wise's family is so interwoven with it that it is difficult, aye, impossible, to separate the one from the other. The family tree, early planted in the colony, blossomed and bore historic fruit.

We find a governor, great statesmen, eminent divines, brave soldiers, learned lawyers, skillful doctors, and prominent men of affairs in each succeeding generation, all noted for their ability and standing in the various professions and callings with which they were identified. I do not intend to go into details about the ancestors or family of Mr. Wise, but to confine my remarks to the personal character of the man himself, whose death leaves an unfilled blank in this Chamber, in his Congressional district, and in his State.

Mr. Wise possessed in a marked degree the characteristics of his race. He was strong and tenacious in opinion, fixed in his ideals and purposes, yet kind-hearted, affable, and yielding in his relations with others.

He was born September 2, 1843, in Philadelphia, Pa., and his education was acquired in a private school, a university school, and at William and Mary College, which he quitted prior to

graduation to enter the Confederate army. He remained in the service until the close of the war, and graduated in his chosen profession of medicine in 1867. He filled in succession many important positions of trust and responsibility, among them being the chair of chemistry and physiology in William and Mary College, and assistant physician of the Eastern Lunatic Asylum, of which latter institution he became superintendent in 1882. He was elected to the Virginia legislature in 1885, in which he served three years, and subsequently to the clerkship of the circuit and county courts of his home city of Williamsburg and county of James City. He was elected to the Fifty-fifth and to the present Congresses.

His strength of character is shown by his life. He left his uncompleted studies to enter the army, convinced that it was his duty to his State and people. Completing his studies and becoming a physician, he devoted much of his time and energy to charity practice, and made it the rule of his life never to refuse to attend the sick, whether they could pay for his services or not.

After the war was over he became a Republican in politics, which, under his environments, was a step requiring the greatest strength and independence of mind and purpose.

Many of his neighbors, while not agreeing with his political views, still supported him in his Congressional races, knowing that he was conscientious in the change he had made. He was forced to submit his claims to membership in this House to be reviewed and passed upon by Congress, and was twice seated after making successful contests. He was the candidate of his party for a third time, and had he retained his health it is probable that the Fifty-seventh Congress would have heard his claims.

All these experiences show the firm and constant character of

the man. He was unbending before opposition, unmindful of obstacles.

The House of Representatives is an exceedingly secular body. It is made up of Members and Delegates from all parts of our great country, and collectively represents nearly 80,000,000 of people. We assemble here to legislate for the material prosperity of the Union, to better the condition of its people, to establish legal barriers against disorder, to build walls of defense against unfair foreign competition, and in successful peace to prepare for, and thus avoid, destructive war. Each comes burdened with the industrial hopes and the commercial needs of his community, and when these are compounded 360 times it is not surprising that the secular relations of this world are placed far ahead of the spiritual relations of the world to come, and that our attention is called to the latter only when some member passes away. It is not that we are without religious convictions and aspirations; not that we are lacking in respect or knowledge of things divine. For have we not the clear, eloquent voice of our blind Chaplain in his daily invocations, like the muezzin in the minaret, calling our thoughts from earthly to heavenly things? But the pressing needs of the secular quickly force a return to the nether world.

In my daily relations with many members of Congress for the last six years, I do not remember to have heard questions of creed, of faith, or of dogma discussed. And so in my almost intimate acquaintance with Mr. Wise I do not know what his religious faith or convictions were, but I do know that he had no fear of death nor of the future—no desire to linger when he should be summoned hence. On one of the last days of his attendance here he said to me, in speaking of his health:

"I am a physician. I know my condition. I have had my share in this world, and I am satisfied to go when my time comes."

A faith, in whatever language written, that so strengthens the soul as to bar fear and prepare it to contentedly look forward to a flight from the known to the unknown, is a good faith and worthy to be perpetuated.

We have lately attended the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the assumption of the Chief Justiceship of the Supreme Court of the United States by John Marshall, and as stars differ in magnitude, but are similar in their orbits, so there are many points of comparison between these two eminent Virginians.

Both were soldiers; both were professional men; both were legislators, and both were Congressmen. One was born, the other buried, in Philadelphia. Both were elected to office because of their recognized integrity and lofty principles, and the memory of each is endeared to a large circle of friends and neighbors, relations, coworkers, and public officials.

As the memory of John Marshall irradiates his State and the nation, so does that of our departed friend shine in his home, in his Congressional district, and largely in his State.

It was my sad duty to attend, as a member of the Congressional committee, the funeral of RICHARD ALSOP WISE. We were present when his mortal remains were conveyed to his last resting place in a grave at the highest point of beautiful Hollywood Cemetery, on a bright Sunday morning, at Richmond, Va. Side by side with his father and other distinguished members of his family his body was laid. And so we, his friends, mourning his departure, place his memory on the highest plane and surround it with holly wreaths as tribute of friendship and affection.

Address of Mr. Lloyd, of Missouri.

Mr. Speaker: Death is certain, and frequently comes without warning. Richard A. Wise was not well, but was able to be out in town near his home. On the next day, however, he was cold and lifeless. Another pointed example of the uncertain tenure here and the swift transfer to the beyond. What is that future? Where shall it be spent? How little we know of what the individual is, or may be, who has crossed over the boundaries of life! If there is anything more cheering in the Christian religion than all else, it is the hope of an eternal, happy existence, where human ills are no more. That one of all others has the least of comfort, in contemplating the hereafter, who believes that death ends all, and that the body committed so tenderly to earth is all there is of the departed, and that soon it shall give way to the elements about it and be lost in the transformations of nature. There is joy in the thought of eternity. There is pleasure in the hope of immortality. There is something inspiring in the encouragement which Christianity gives that beyond death there is to be a useful, progressive, and happy life. I know but little of the religious convictions of Dr. Wise, but certain it is that he is gone, and nothing but religion gives hope for the future and lends encouragement to the thought of a meeting hereafter.

Dr. Wise served through the civil war as a Confederate soldier, and was at the close of that fearful conflict inspector-general of Wise's brigade, Army of Northern Virginia. Will it be said that less of praise shall be accorded his memory because

he wore the gray? Will the Union veteran bend over the mound which marks his resting place in the beautiful cemetery at Richmond, Va., to inquire whether he fought with him or against him? Every American may well rejoice in the fact that the animosities which arose in the attempts at disunion are swallowed up in the delightful sentiment of reunion. The country builded by the fathers was rent in twain by war to settle great questions, but after the settlement it is bound together with the strongest ties to restore the Union, which was long ago declared to be "one and indissolvable."

Across the historic Potomac, at the Arlington Cemetery, where the nation's dead have been carefully buried, is found a beautiful example of the blending of the blue and the gray. In the midst of this cemetery, overlooking the city of Washington, on the principal elevation is preserved sacredly to-day the beautiful home of Gen. Robert E. Lee, and the stranger passing by admiring its beauty dare not injure it by so much as a pencil mark without penalty. Dr. WISE was amongst the vanquished in that conflict, but his life work is not dimmed nor his fame diminished by that association.

Personally I know but little of the life and character of the deceased, but at the request of the Speaker of this House I went as one of the Congressional escort to give to the deceased the last sad rites of burial. Surrounded by the graves of numerous relatives who had preceded him, his body was buried from human gaze, not far from the beautiful vault which contains the remains of President Monroe, near the grave of President Tyler, and in the cemetery where Jeff Davis, president of the Confederacy, lies buried. On the side of another hill, not far distant, is the last resting place of Chief Justice Marshall. What a historic home of the dead!

What associations are blended there! What ruin time has wrought! How fitting are Shakespeare's words:

> Time doth transfix the flourish set on youth
> And delves the parallels in beauty's brow;
> Feeds on the rareties of nature's truth,
> And nothing stands but for his scythe to mow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As a further mark of respect to the memory of the two deceased members, in tribute to whom these proceedings have been held, the House, pursuant to its resolution, stands adjourned until Monday next at 12 o'clock noon.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

JANUARY 3, 1901.

A message from the House communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. RICHARD A. WISE, late a Representative from the State of Virginia, and transmitted resolutions of the House thereon.

The message also announced that the Speaker of the House had appointed as a committee on the part of the House to attend the funeral of the Hon. RICHARD A. WISE, late a Representative from the State of Virginia, Mr. Weeks of Michigan, Mr. Aldrich of Alabama, Mr. Kahn of California, Mr. Roberts of Massachusetts, Mr. Minor of Wisconsin, Mr. Brick of Indiana, Mr. Jones of Virginia, Mr. Swanson of Virginia, Mr. Otey of Virginia, Mr. Rixey of Virginia, Mr. Hay of Virginia, Mr. Lamb of Virginia, Mr. Quarles of Virginia, Mr. Rhea of Virginia, Mr. Lassiter of Virginia, Mr. Lloyd of Missouri, and Mr. Gaines of Tennessee.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following resolutions from the House of Representatives, which were read:

Resolved, That the House has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of Hon. RICHARD A. WISE, a Representative from the State of Virginia.

Resolved, That a committee of 17 members of the House, with such members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral at Williamsburg, and that the necessary expenses attending the execution of this order be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House be authorized and

directed to take such steps as may be necessary for properly carrying out the provisions of this resolution.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. DANIEL. Mr. President, I ask leave to offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The resolutions were read, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep sensibility the announcement of the death of Hon. RICHARD ALSOP WISE, late a Representative from the State of Virginia.

Resolved, That as an additional mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the Senate do now adjourn.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on the adoption of the resolutions submitted by the Senator from Virginia.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to; and (at 4 o'clock and 16 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Friday, January 4, 1901, at 12 o'clock meridian.

FEBRUARY 11, 1901.

A message from the House transmitted to the Senate the resolutions of the House commemorative of the life and public services of Hon. RICHARD A. WISE, late a Representative from the State of Virginia.

FEBRUARY 14, 1901.

Mr. DANIEL. I desire to give notice that on Saturday, the 23d instant, at such hour as may be most suitable, I shall offer appropriate resolutions touching the death of Hon. RICHARD ALSOP WISE, late a Representative from Virginia.

FEBRUARY 23, 1901.

Mr. DANIEL. Mr. President, I ask that the resolutions of the House of Representatives respecting the Hon. RICHARD A. WISE, of Virginia, who recently died, may be laid before the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Hansbrough in the chair). The resolutions will be read.

The Secretary read as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *February 9, 1901.*

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. RICHARD A. WISE, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Virginia.

Resolved, That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, the House, at the conclusion of this day's proceedings, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

Mr. DANIEL. I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk, and ask that they be read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolutions submitted by the Senator from Virginia will be read.

The Secretary read as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. RICHARD A. WISE, late a Representative from the State of Virginia.

Resolved, That the business of the Senate be now suspended in order that fitting tribute be paid to his memory.

Resolved, That as an additional mark of respect the Senate, at the conclusion of these ceremonies, do adjourn.

Address of Mr. Daniel, of Virginia.

Mr. President: In the closing stages of the Fifty-sixth Congress, as at similar periods of previous Congresses, we find that there are not days enough in the week or hours enough in the day for the fitting and appropriate discharge of the duties that are upon us. Everything at such a stage of legislation seems to be congested. Bills in which hundreds of millions of dollars are bestowed for the efficient conduct of the multifarious affairs of nearly a hundred millions of people in two continents at wide distances jostle against each other.

Measures of great pith and moment, which involve the most intricate and difficult questions of constitutional, economic, and administrative law, are thrust upon us with scarce time for their due deliberation. The printing presses are pushed to their extreme capacity to bear the necessary burdens which are put upon them. Swift messengers go hither and thither, and the members of both bodies of Congress are almost worn down by the sense of their responsibilities and by the continuity of their labors.

Meantime at this session of Congress, Mr. President, the streets are busy with the bustling workmen who are preparing the great pavilions, and many arrangements are being made for the inauguration of a new President who has been selected by the people and who is to succeed himself. Myriads all over the land are looking forward to the gala day and to the splendid pageant. The glory of the world will shine before us. But a still small voice has spoken, which is more imperious than the thunder's blast and more potent than the lightning's stroke. It has stolen within these walls, and in the precincts

of our coordinate body, the House of Representatives. It is the voice of death, and four of the old States of the Union, which were original colonies of the British Crown, are at one and the same time bending over the new-made grave where Clarke, of New Hampshire; Hoffecker, of Delaware; Daly, of New Jersey, and WISE, of Virginia, sleep their long sleep.

RICHARD ALSOP WISE, of Virginia, represented the oldest territory in the United States that ever came under that system of British-American jurisprudence and constitutional law, which has overspread this continent and is going farther all over the world. The many places of responsibility and importance that he occupied in the community where he lived bespeak the sense of the people of that community as to his ability and his efficiency. I observe that one of the first facts recounted in the biographical sketches which have been given of his life was that he was educated in Richmond, and at Dr. Gessner Harrison's classical academy in the county of Albemarle. It was there that I first became acquainted with him. We were then youths in the very morning of life. We studied the same books; we played at the same games. There were at that school, which was presided over by Gessner Harrison, a distinguished linguist and grammarian, whose fame transcended the boundaries of his native Commonwealth, young men from all the States of the South and from many of the States of the North and West.

While we were there, there occurred the first startling symptoms of the great strife which seems now almost a part of ancient history. Governor Wise, the father of RICHARD WISE, was then the chief executive of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and all of a sudden, like the ringing of a fire bell in the night, there occurred the raid of John Brown at Harpers Ferry, in which an assault was made upon the arsenal of the United

States, against its peace and dignity, in which many of our own citizens were slain, against the peace and dignity of our State.

The Federal Government and the State government alike proceeded in such manner as was befitting such an occasion; and there met soon at Harpers Ferry, representing the United States military forces, Robert E. Lee, then lieutenant-colonel of cavalry, who afterwards became the commander in chief of the Army of Northern Virginia, and Lieut. J. E. B. Stuart, who served as his adjutant and who afterwards became the lieutenant-general commanding the cavalry of that army, and who won for himself the sobriquet of "The Flower of Cavaliers."

There were there officers representing the volunteers of the State, who also rose high in distinction. One was Capt. Turner Ashby, who gave his sword to the cause which he adopted as a general wearing the wreath and stars of the newborn Confederacy, and another that remarkable man—then a major of the State cadets—who soon rose to preeminence in the profession which he had first entered at West Point, in which he had become distinguished in Mexico, and who earned in his first battle in the civil war the name of "Stonewall" Jackson Jackson, Stuart, and Ashby all died the soldier's death. Our school was soon deserted. The teachers became officers. The boys scattered to their States and colors all over the country—each going to his own people.

When this period came, Mr. Wise and I became comrades, even as before we had been school mates and fellows, and as a private under the command of General Stuart he entered the Confederate army. A few years later he had risen to the rank of captain and assistant inspector-general of a brigade which was commanded by his father, all of whose sons joined with him in the Confederate service, and one of whom, Obediah Jennings Wise, a captain, fell gallantly at Roanoke Island.

The war over, the young men of the State, like young men all over this country, repaired to peaceful pursuits, and young WISE adopted the vocation of a physician. He entered the Medical College of Virginia in 1867, and was graduated there soon after. In 1869 he had become professor of chemistry and physiology at old William and Mary College, and that institution conferred upon him the degree of master of arts. In 1878 he became a physician at the Eastern Lunatic Asylum, which is also situated at his home town of Williamsburg, and a little later was promoted to be the superintendent of that institution.

About this period of time, Mr. President, the people of Virginia were thrown into great commotion by the debt question, which came upon them as a legacy of civil war. It is curious to note the fact that that Commonwealth, which had earned for itself the name of "Mother of States" and which had given to the Union five of the great Northwestern Commonwealths which are now more populous and wealthier than herself, was the only one of all the Commonwealths of this Union that was itself divided by the hand of war, an irony of fate which excites our contemplation, and in some of our hearts stirs the depths of sorrow.

When this debt question came upon us, it threw awry all ancient party alignments. A political party rose in our State which was known as the Readjuster party, and with that party the Hon. R. A. WISE aligned himself. When this question was settled, some returned to their old alignments; some joined the Republican party. He was amongst the latter class. As such in 1885 he became a member of the State legislature. In 1887 he was elected the clerk of the county and circuit courts of the town of Williamsburg and county of James City. In recent years he served twice as a member of Congress—in the Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth Congresses.

Mr. WISE was a man of intense disposition, full of activity and full of energy, and apt to make his mark in anything which he undertook. He had earnest and trusting friends and he had earnest opponents. It had not been my fortune to be thrown much with him for many years, for we lived in remote parts of the State, separated by many miles, and by the courses of trade and travel, from each other. But I am glad to say that I never heard his personal integrity questioned, and the constant hold which he had upon those with whom he affiliated and the success with which he maintained himself in the various undertakings of life bespeak his ability better than any adjective which I could apply to him.

Mr. WISE was of a family which has long been distinguished in the annals of our State. His first Virginia ancestor came to that colony in 1635. His name was John Wise. He possessed great wit, and was said to have been knighted by Henry VIII for his remarkable effusions and demonstrations denoting it. From him as an American ancestor sprung many men of distinction—soldiers, orators, authors, clergymen, and lawyers. His father, the Hon. Henry A. Wise, was the most eminent of his name; a brilliant orator and celebrated party leader—Congressman, foreign minister, governor, and general. He was also a lawyer of learning and eloquence, and as an author his "Ten Decades of the Union" is a most interesting and graphic essay. Mr. WISE was proud of his family, and deeply devoted to those who were near and dear to him, and he is deeply mourned by many friends who found in him a helping hand in all their efforts and undertakings.

Afflicted by a mortal malady, as he himself well knew, it came acutely upon him while he was here in these busy conflicts and contentions of life; and to a friend to whom he told he was going home, and who inquired about him, he said, "I

am a physician; I know my condition; I have had my share in this world, and I am satisfied to go when my time comes."

I do not know, Mr. President, what were his peculiar religious opinions, but one who has so composed his mind to meet with a calm and courageous spirit the last enemy of man I can but feel was not unprepared for that last trial.

I have read in an encomium upon him, written by a friend who was not of his political persuasion, these words, which I beg leave to repeat here:

> Many families can be mentioned—white families, not to speak of the colored people—upon whom Dr. WISE has been practicing for years without hope or expectation of remuneration. The devotion of the needy class to Dr. WISE was phenomenal. "Day and night," it is known to the writer of this poor tribute, Dr. WISE would travel many miles to visit the sick, nurse them tenderly and carefully, when he well knew there was not the slightest prospect of any medical fees.

To have had a truthful friend to say that of him is worth more than any costly monument that could be built above his dust or any word of praise that could be spoken.

Fitting ceremonies were held in the House of Representatives upon the death of Dr. WISE, and more extended biographies of his life and history were there given; but that he had such reputation amongst those who knew him best, and that witnesses have risen up to speak of his acts of kindness and charity to those who were needy, is enough to give solace to the sorrowing hearts of those who were of his kith and kindred, and such a man I feel must sleep well.

Address of Mr. Turley, of Tennessee.

Mr. President: The names of prominent individuals and families are intimately connected with the history of all of our older States, and thus it is that the name of Wise is connected with some of the most stirring scenes in the history of the great Commonwealth of Virginia. In the earliest recollections that I have of any public event, I remember now that the name of Henry A. Wise, father of Representative Richard A. Wise, was more often mentioned and more widely known than probably the name of any other public man then living in this country. Descended from such a family and such a father, it is not at all wonderful that the life of Richard A. Wise should have been one of force and usefulness. The history of his services while representing his State in the House of Representatives is a part of the records of Congress.

Mr. President, when I see and remember that in his early youth and during the civil war he was a member of the troopers who rode with Stuart, and also during a portion of that struggle was one of that incomparable body of men in the infantry of the army of Northern Virginia, I know that he must have been a man in all that that term implies. But, Mr. President, to my mind it is not in the public achievements of any individual that we must look for his true character. It is in his private life and in his private relations. The kindly man, the charitable citizen, the man who loves his neighbor as himself, is as useful, if not more useful, in this world than the man who sways Senates and commands armies, and I have always believed that the best man on this earth is the good physician. I give him

his place above preacher, above lawyer, above any other class of men. No men in my judgment do so much good. No men carry so much comfort to the afflicted as do the conscientious, kind, accomplished physicians.

Dr. WISE was for many years a practicing physician, and the Senator from Virginia has read a portion of a letter which was written about him at the time of his death by one who lived in the same community with him and knew him well. I wish to add a portion of that letter as a part of my remarks, to show the true character of this man:

> The feeling of the deepest sorrow fills this entire community on account of the death of Dr. RICHARD A. WISE, which occurred about 10 o'clock yesterday morning, for they feel the loss of a good and skillful physician, who was ready at all times to respond to the calls of suffering humanity; and those who feel most heavily the loss of a kind friend and benefactor are the poorer class of people. This day has been heard on the streets and out in the country many heartfelt expressions of sorrow from the lips of white and colored: "What is to become of us, now that Dr. WISE is gone?"

Mr. President, higher praise and a more fitting tribute could not be paid to the memory of any man.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions submitted by the Senator from Virginia [Mr. Daniel].

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

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